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Panorama Parent Newsletter

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## Panorama October 2017

Southern Adventist University

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## Letter from the Editor

I hope you enjoyed this issue of *Panorama* and maybe even learned something new. As a parent of a Southern student, your feedback is valuable. Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions and email your response to [southern-parents@southern.edu](mailto:southern-parents@southern.edu).

- Do you read about parenting topics in books, magazines, or websites? If so, which ones?
- Did anything about sending your student off to college make you nervous? If so, what?
- Which do you value more in a parent newsletter: learning about opportunities on campus that you can then talk about with your students or reading advice about parenting college students?
- Is there a particular topic you would like to see covered in *Panorama*?

Please list any email addresses where you would like us to send *ePanorama*, our electronic newsletter, which offers additional content four times year. Thank you! May you and your Southern student have a blessed year.



Sheann Brandon  
*Panorama* student editor

## OCT

- 11-16** Adventist Heritage Tour
- 13-15** Midterm Break
- 19-20** Fall PreviewSouthern
- 20** Deadline to request December/May Graduation
- 23** Last Day for 40 Percent Tuition Refund
- 23** Senior Exit Exams
- 24** Anthony Trionfo Flute Concert  
Enjoy the musical stylings of Anthony Trionfo and his flute in Ackerman Auditorium at 7 p.m.
- 26** Last Day to Drop a Class
- 29** SA Fall Festival
- NOV 2** Online Winter Registration for Returning Juniors
- 4** School of Music Sacred Concert  
Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists at 4 p.m.



# PANORAMA

parent newsletter | October 2017



## Southern Experiences a Rare Solar Eclipse

August 21, 2017, was a day many students and employees at Southern Adventist University will never forget. They had the privilege of witnessing a rare, total solar eclipse only minutes from campus. Chris Hansen, chair of the Physics and Engineering Department, was instrumental in arranging a trip to Athens, Tennessee, where students, employees, and alumni could view the eclipse in totality.

Hansen and his team began planning for the event a year ago, looking for ways to help others get the most out of the experience. He coordinated more than 40 Seventh-day Adventist schools across North America to take part in a collaborative science experiment, providing information, protective eyewear, and a sense of community. Originally he ordered 2,500 solar eclipse glasses, only to realize that wasn't nearly enough for the amount of interest in this event. He doubled the order, and Southern handed out a total of 5,000 free eclipse glasses to the schools as well as students and faculty on campus.

Through this initiative, more than 3,000 K-12 students had the opportunity to join an online viewing party on Southern's

website. Schools could register ahead of time and see where other participating schools were located, which helped connect the students even without being together in person. Using Southern's eclipse mobile app, 77 viewing parties across the country also uploaded scientific data from their locations.

### The Solar Eclipse in Totality

A total solar eclipse is caused when the sun, the moon, and Earth are all in a direct line, with the moon completely blocking the sun for a brief time, producing strange phenomena not seen anywhere but in totality. On Southern's campus in Collegedale, Tennessee, the eclipse was at 99.7 percent, so many students chose to watch the event there. The administration cancelled afternoon classes to give students the best viewing opportunity, and students gathered outside every building on campus. However, many took advantage of the proximity to totality by traveling with Southern to see the magnificent event.

In fact, more than 300 Southern students, employees, and alumni made the trip to Athens, hosted by Tennessee Wesleyan

University, to see the full impact of totality. It was a life-changing experience for many. Southern students who went were grateful to be involved.

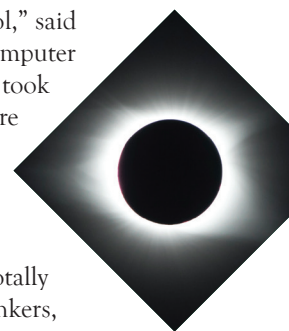
"During totality, it went dark on the field, and it was really cool," said Allie Tennyson, junior computer science major. "Everyone took the glasses off, and we were screaming and looking at the sky."

"Southern made it possible for me to see the total eclipse, which was totally amazing," said Danny Yonkers, freshman mass communication major. "I wish I could do it again."

The solar eclipse was not just an excellent opportunity to take a field trip but a chance to be part of something unique and experience the handiwork of God firsthand.

"In viewing the eclipse in Athens, we got a sense of being a part of a bigger community," Hansen said. "There are so many things in nature we can't see, but God showed His sense of surprise for us in the beauty of the eclipse."

~ Natalie Boonstra





“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:19



## Student Life:

### Dorm Renovations

At the start of this school year, many students in the residence halls were welcomed with newly-renovated dorm rooms. These renovations are a part of Southern's larger initiative to make the campus increasingly accessible and comfortable for students.

During the 2017 winter semester, the university campaigned to raise funds to pay for room upgrades during the summer. More than \$42,000 was raised to fix up 100 dorm rooms in both Talge and Thatcher halls.

The rooms feature wooden floors, light wood finishes, and modern furniture. Many students who received these rooms for the new school year are grateful for the upgrades.

“My room is really nice,” said Daijah Stowe, sophomore graphic design major. “I love the mirror, floor, desk, and closets, and there is a lot more storage space.”

Southern is also working to build new dean apartments in Thatcher Hall. These new living quarters, slated to be completed by the end of the 2017-2018 school year, will be better suited to the needs of those who serve the dorm residents. Associate Vice President of Financial Administration Marty Hamilton said that the addition will also enable deans to invite students into their homes for fellowship.

~ by Tierra Hayes



## Meet The Student Missions Director:

An Interview With Christian Bunch

*Q: How do you prepare and care for student missionaries?*

A: My job is to take care of student missionaries. Before student missionaries leave to serve, they take classes specific to missions, which I teach. While they're away, we send them care packages and keep in contact. When they come home, we provide service opportunities and reintegration on campus.

*Q: Why are you passionate about missions?*

A: When I was younger, I remember going on a trip to help Hurricane Katrina victims with my dad. Afterwards, we did a follow-up trip. I just loved it. I felt like I was valuable to the cause. There were several other mission trips after that one, so by the time I arrived at Southern, it was inevitable that I would go on a long-term trip. As Adventists, what truly defines us is that we are called by God to share the gospel and make the world a better place. I want to be a part of that movement.

*Q: What does mission work mean to you?*

A: Our theme for Student Missions is “Lives Changing.” The twofold meaning applies to our lives being changed but also to changing the lives of others. It is important in our faith to look outside of ourselves and ask the question, “Is life about me or about somebody else?”

*Q: What should parents know about mission work?*

A: Student missions is not always easy, not always fun, but lives change as a result. Students come back with a rich, spiritual experience that you can't duplicate. For both students and parents, this adventure is a journey of faith. It's hard to say goodbye, but it's needed. Be assured, we're looking out for students' safety; if we wouldn't send our family members there, we wouldn't send your kids there.







## A Message from the President:

### A Value-Added Education

Several years ago, a researcher at Harvard University studied those aspects of the university's undergraduate students' experiences which most impacted the life of each student. It may be surprising to some that these students did not identify the learning they did in a classroom as among the most formative experiences. In fact, 90 percent of the experiences identified by these students as most impactful occurred outside of the classroom.

For those of us who work in higher education, these results are not surprising. While we value the knowledge transferred in classrooms, we recognize that higher education is more than the act of gaining knowledge. It involves transforming the learner and offering to a challenge to become all that his or her potential presents.

At Southern, this transformative experience occurs during intramural ballgames, Friday evening vespers programs, club activities, social interactions in every part of campus, life in the residence halls, campus work opportunities, internships and practicums, and so much more. Every aspect of university life helps shape the lives of our students, and it does so in a positive, Adventist Christian environment.

This is why we are glad we offer a residential experience, an environment where continual learning and personal growth takes place, stimulated by everything that happens while a student is on our campus.

So please, encourage your children to fully participate in campus life while they are students here, and, as they do, watch them mature and develop.

~ by David Smith, president



## Did You Know?

### Mailing Addresses

As a parent, it can be difficult to know which address to use when trying to send something to your student. Whether it's a package, envelope, flowers, or even a pizza, the mailing guide below will ensure that your delivery arrives at the correct place!

#### For all U.S. mail (letters, cards, small envelopes):

##### Men's Dorm

Talge Hall  
[Student Name]  
P.O. Box 569  
[Student Room #]  
Collegedale, TN  
37315

##### On-Campus Apartments

Southern Village  
[Student Name]  
P.O. Box 2218  
[Student Apt. and Room #]  
Collegedale, TN  
37315

##### Women's Dorms

Thatcher Hall  
[Student Name]  
P.O. Box 529  
[Student Room #]  
Collegedale, TN  
37315

Thatcher South  
[Student Name]  
P.O. Box 2218  
[Student Room #]  
Collegedale, TN  
37315

#### For items that require a street address, including UPS, FedEx, DHL, etc. (pizza deliveries, flowers, packages):

##### Men's Dorm

Talge Hall  
[Student Name]  
891 Taylor Circle  
[Student Room #]  
Collegedale, TN  
37315

##### On-Campus Apartments

Southern Village  
[Student Name]  
4841 University Drive  
[Student Apt. and Room #]  
Collegedale, TN  
37315

##### Women's Dorms

Thatcher Hall  
[Student Name]  
4871 Taylor Circle  
[Student Room #]  
Collegedale, TN  
37315

Thatcher South  
[Student Name]  
4841 University Drive  
[Student Room #]  
Collegedale, TN  
37315

For more on contact information  
and other resident resource information,  
visit [southern.edu/contact](https://southern.edu/contact).





# THE MAIN EVENT

WELCOMING THE CLASS OF 2021







# THE SOLAR ECLIPSE

## FIELD TRIP TO TOTALITY

